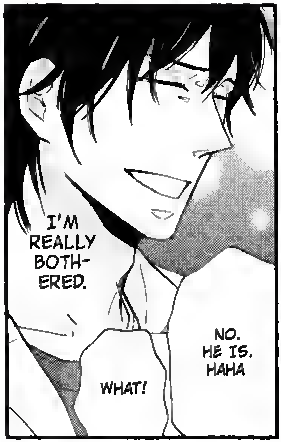
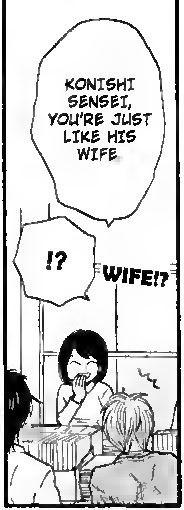
somehow good smell
なんだかいいにおい
RYOKO CHIBA
千葉リョウコ

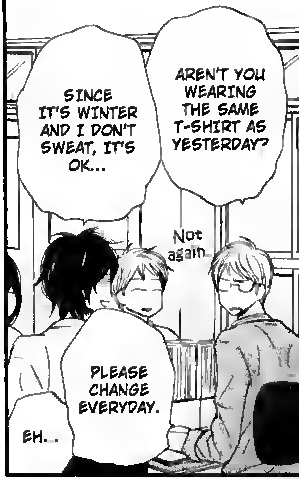
IT HAS ALWAYS BOTHERED ME
MY COLLEAGUE THAT'S SITTING BESIDE ME
WAH! I'M SORRY, THEY FELL OVER
ARE YOU OK, KONISHI SENSEI?
NAGUMO SENSEI'S DESK IS REALLY MESSY

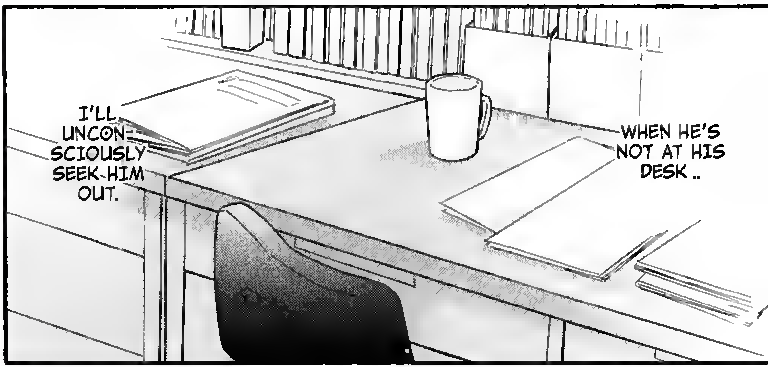
I REMEMBER YOUR DESK WAS TIDIED THREE DAYS AGO.
BY ME.
AH, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
NAGUMO SENSEI.
YES?
THEN WHY HAS IT BECOME LIKE THIS AGAIN?
It's only 3 days!
AH I WONDER.
I'M NOT GOOD AT TIDYING AT ALL.
Haha!
.....
WON'T YOU HAVE SOME COFFEE?
I'll get it for you.
YOU DRINK BLACK, RIGHT?
AH!
NAGUMO SENSEI, THAT CUP...
HUH?
STAINED
HOW MANY DAYS SINCE YOU LAST WASHED IT?
HMM
I'VE BEEN USING IT FOR ABOUT A WEEK... MAYBE?
.....

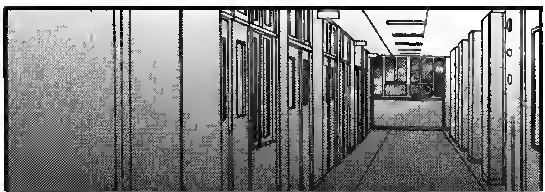
WAH. IT'S SPARKLING CLEAN.
While I was teaching?
Yes When you weren't around
I DON'T WANT YOUR STUFF TO INVADE MY DESK ANYMORE
NEATLY
BLINK
YOU'RE A GREAT HELP.
THANKS.
AH. IT HAS GOTTEN QUITE LONG.
AND SHOULDN'T YOU BE GETTING A HAIRCUT?
Eh? "Doki"
RECENTLY, YOU DID SHAVE BEFORE COMING TO SCHOOL SO THAT'S FINE.
DOKI
PLEASE TRY YOUR BEST TO TIDY YOUR DESK SOMETIMES.
Roger.


I'M REALLY BOTHERED.
WHAT!
NO. HE IS. HAHA


KONISHI SENSEI, YOU'RE JUST LIKE HIS WIFE
!?
WIFE!?


AREN'T YOU WEARING THE SAME T-SHIRT AS YESTERDAY?
SINCE IT'S WINTER AND I DON'T SWEAT, IT'S OK...
Not again
PLEASE CHANGE EVERYDAY.
EH..


I'LL UNCONSCIOUSLY SEEK HIM OUT.
WHEN HE'S NOT AT HIS DESK ..



No way
Eh, stingy.
NAGUMO SENSEI HAS HIS SLOPPINESS, BUT HE'S SURPRISINGLY GOOD AT TAKING CARE OF PEOPLE
WHERE DID THAT COME FROM?
NAGUMO SENSEI, IS IT TRUE THAT YOU'RE OFFERING COFFEE IN THE SCIENCE PREP ROOM?
CAN WE GO NEXT TIME?
AH.
See you.
THE STUDENTS TRUST HIM, TOO.
HMMPH!
HAZY
HAZY
?
?
HAZY
?

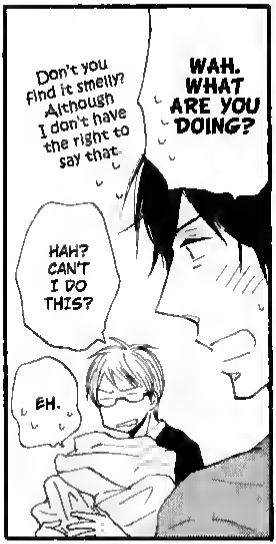
I WONDER SINCE WHEN THE CHEMICAL SCENT OF THIS WHITE COAT WITH AN UNKNOWN LAUNDRY DATE...

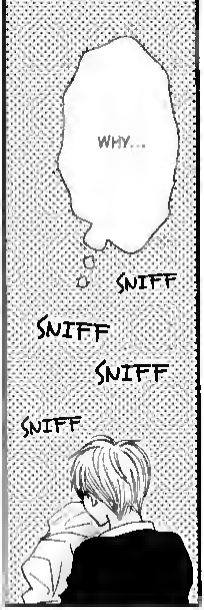
MIXING WITH THE CIGARETTE SCENT OCCA-SIONALLY... PROBABLY...
TOGETHER WITH THE COFFEE SCENT...
NAGUMO SENSEI'S SCENT.
ERM KONISHI SENSEI?
SNIFF
SNIFF
SNIFF
!?
SNIFF
DO I STINK THAT MUCH?
EH?
NO.
BUT YOU JUST...
HAH?
Ah
OH
ARE YOU FREE TODAY, KONISHI SENSEI?

OH.
I WANT TO GIVE YOU A TREAT AS MY GRATITUDE TO YOU FOR ALWAYS TIDYING MY DESK.
I'll cook.

EH? IS THAT SO?
The dorm provided by the school.
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS BOTH OUR ROOMS ARE OF THE SAME SIZE . .
EH.
DO YOU EVEN HAVE ONE?
FIND A PLACE TO SIT.

CAN HE EVEN COOK?
I'LL GO AND MAKE DINNER.
DON'T BE. I WANTED TO DO IT.
I'M SORRY ...
ANYWAY, JUST A PLACE WHERE I CAN SIT FIRST.
EH?
AH. THE RIGHT SIDE ARE CLEAN LAUNDRY
JUST IGNORE THE CLOTHES.
IT'S FINE. YOU CAN'T JUST LEAVE IT.
I'll put them in the washing machine
The left side are the dirty ones?
I'M SORRY.
AH.
OF COURSE THIS ROOM WILL BE FILLED WITH NAGUMO'S SCENT.


Don't you find it smelly? Although I don't have the right to say that.
WAH. WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HAH? CAN'T I DO THIS?
EH.


WHY...
SNIFF
SNIFF
SNIFF
SNIFF

IT'S GETTING WEIRD
SOME-HOW.

MY CHICKEN HOT POT IS REALLY GOOD
Haha
EAT UP.
I thought so!
MY ROOM HASN'T BEEN THIS CLEAN SINCE A LONG TIME.
I don't know how to thank you

IT'S GOOD.
THANKS.
YOU'RE GOOD IN COOKING ALTHOUGH YOU'RE BAD AT CLEANING.
HAHA.
AH.
THANK YOU.
MY PLEA-SURE.
I'VE SOME PLUM SAKE MADE BY ME WANNA DRINK?
SURE.
YOU CAN DRINK ALL YOU WANT SINCE WE AREN'T WORK-ING TOMOR-ROW.
OK.
I LOVE DRINKING AT HOME.
I SLEEP IF I GET TIRED.
Ah. This one's good, too.
I SEE.

AH. CAN I SMOKE?
SURE.
IT'S THE FIRST TIME I SEE YOU SMOKE.
I ONLY SMOKE IN THE ROOM.
The school's been really noisy lately I can't relax
IT'S TRUE THAT SMOKING DOESN'T BENEFIT AT ALL.
BUT YOU LOOK GOOD
HAH?
YOUR SMOKING POSTURE
EH.
VERY COOL
EH.

IF YOU KEEP ON BEING SLOPPY...
YOU MIGHT NOT FIND A GIRLFRIEND.
ALTHOUGH YOU HAVE YOUR GOOD POINTS...
.....?
THANK YOU.
YOU'RE WEL-COME.
YOUR ROOM'S SO MESSY.
AT ONE GLANCE I KNEW YOU DON'T HAVE ONE.
YEAH.
YOU'RE OF THAT AGE ALREADY.
IT'S BETTER TO THINK ABOUT IT.
FATE, HUH...
YES.
Wow, you're a good drinker. Have another glass.
THAT DEPENDS ON FATE.

EH?
NN ..
RELAXING AND MAKES ME FEEL SAFE...
A NICE SCENT.
OH. IT'S NAGUMO SENSEI'S SCENT
EH?
WHAT...
HAH!

KONISHI-SAN, MORNING...
YOU SHOCKED ME
MORN-ING
?
YES...
DOKI
AH.
I SEE. PROBABLY.
WHAT?
EH?
WHY WOULD WE... SLEEP TO-GETHER?
YOU DON'T REMEMBER?
YOU WERE RATHER DRUNK LAST NIGHT.
YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO SMELL ME AND YOU HELD ME.
HAH
...!?
YOU REFUSED TO LET GO OF ME
SO WE HAD TO SLEEP DIRECTLY ON THE BED LIKE THAT.

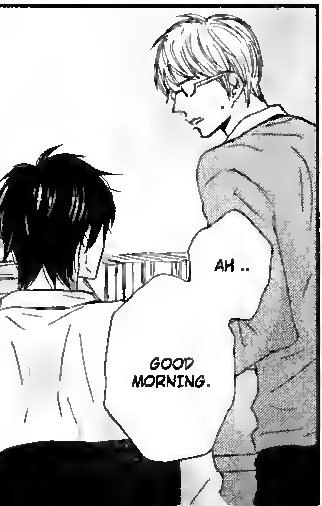
DIDN'T YOU PUSH ME AWAY IF YOU FEEL THAT IT WASN'T RIGHT?
I DIDN'T HATE IT.
AND KONISHI-SAN, ARE YOU...

WHAT W S THAT!
MEMORY LOST
WHY...

I'M REALLY SORRY TO TROUBLE YOU.
EH.
WHATEVER IT IS..
TO-WARDS ME...

WHAT WAS I DOING?
WAIT...
I'M LEAVING.
EH, KONISHI-SAN.

I MUST BE CRAZY.


AH ..
GOOD MORNING.

KONISHI SENSEI.
GOOD MORNING.

HE'S STILL THE SAME
HAVE YOU FINISHED SETTING THE TEST FOR YEAR END?
YEAH.
WAH THAT'S FAST. I'M STILL NOT DONE YET.
I HEARD THE STAFF MEETING HAS BEEN POST-PONED TO TOMORROW.
IS THAT SO?
I KNOW I'VE REALISED THIS FEELING.
BUT EVEN IF I KNOW...
KONISHI SENSEI?

WHAT...
YOU SURPRISED ME.
.....
Ah.
ガタン
WAH!
AH...
KONISHI...
SORRY.
WHAT'S WITH THE "SORRY"?
SORRY.
SORRY.
WHAT SHOULD I DO?

I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT I SHOULD DO ANY-MORE.

PLEASE COME IN.
I DON'T NEED ANY DINNER.
BUT...
DON'T MIND IT.
EH!
WELL...
!!!!!!
!!
WHY'D IT BE THIS MESSY JUST AFTER ONE WEEK?
ERM.
DO YOU HAVE A SCENT FETISH?
IT'S FINALLY BACK TO THE SAME OLD YOU.

YOU KISSED ME. YEP.
HAH?
WHEN YOU GOT DRUNK THE OTHER TIME AT MY PLACE...
YOU SAID YOU LOVED MY BODY SCENT.
HAH!?
ACTUALLY ...

SO MUCH THAT YOU WERE WILLING TO KISS ANOTHER GUY LIKE ME.
And an old one
MAYBE YOU LIKED MY BODY SCENT.
I THOUGHT ..
EH?

I WAS SO DEPRESSED!
I'm old I can't take the trauma
KISS?
YOU WERE WEIRD IN SCHOOL, TOO. YOU LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE AVOIDING ME.
I THOUGHT TO ASK YOU WHEN YOU WOKE UP, BUT YOU RAN OFF

I KISSED HIM?
FETISH ..
NOTHING LIKE THAT.
I ONLY LIKE YOUR SCENT.
EH?
I...
KONISHI-SAN.
ACTUALLY I DON'T GET IT, TOO
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SAY IT.
I HAVE NO CLUE WHY I'M SO BOTHERED WITH YOU
IT'S OK. CALM DOWN.
AH...

I HATE TO BE TREATED THE SAME LIKE YOUR STUDENT
KONISHI-SAN?
AH.
PLEASE DON'T TREAT ME LIKE THEM!
SORRY
DON'T TAKE ME AS YOUR STUDENT.
I'M NOT YOUR STUDENT!

AH!
EH?
KISS...
YOU REMEMBER?
I KISSED YOU...

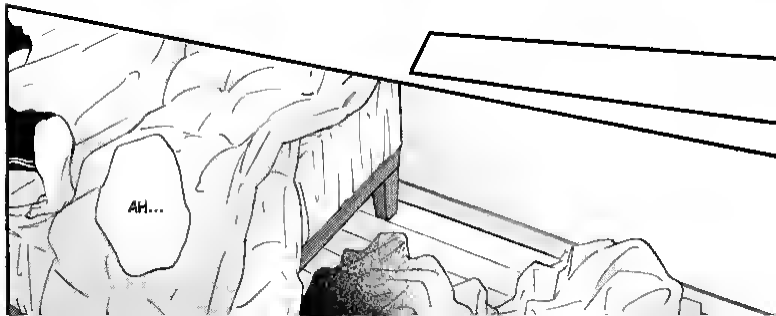
IF YOU'RE STILL CONFUSED...
LET ME DECIDE FOR YOU.
ERM.
YEAH.
I ACTUALLY DID THAT...
KONISHI-SAN.
YOU LIKE ME.

ISN'T IT GOOD?
WHAT...
ARE..
BECAUSE ..
I LIKE YOU, TOO.
EH...
ISN'T IT WONDERFUL THAT OUR LOVE IS MUTUAL?

OK.
I'VE NO OBJECTION.
RIGHT?
YOU SAID THAT..
SINCE...
THIS TIME...
CAN I BE THE ONE KISSING YOU?
!!
FROM NOW ON...
WE'RE A COUPLE.

I REALLY WANT TO KISS YOU.
JUST DO WHAT YOU LIKE!

OK.


AH...

ERM
I'VE NEVER BEEN WITH ANOTHER GUY BEFORE
WHAT A CO-INCIDENCE ME, TOO.
YES?
THEN SHOULDN'T WE START FROM BASIC?
BUT...
IT'LL BE UN-COMFORTABLE IF WE STOP NOW. OUR LOWER PARTS...
.....!!
LET'S COMPROMISE.
EH.

PLEASE DON'T BE RASH!
WAH.... WHAT...
AH...
PUT YOUR THIGHS TOGETHER
AH...
YEAH, BUT...
WAH!
KONISHI-SAN.
SEE. YOU WON'T FEEL PAINFUL LIKE THAT.
NOT SCARY, RIGHT?
AH!

NA-
NAGUMO SENSEI...

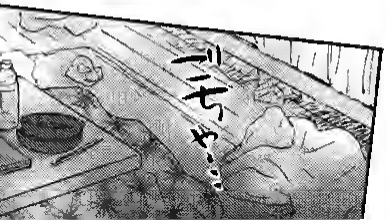
I JUST LIKE YOUR SCENT.
ALTHOUGH I DON'T KNOW THE REAL REASON YET...

なんだかいいにおい第1話 END

なんだか
いいにおい
somehow
good smell

IN MY OFFICE
NAGUMO SENSEI SITTING BESIDE ME GIVES OFF A VERY SMOOTHING SCENT
SOMETIMES IT COMFORTS ME VERY RELAXING
YES?
SOMETIMES
IT MAKES MY HEART BEATS FASTER
KONISHI SENSEI
NAGUMO SENSEI SAID IT ALREADY

COMING OVER TONIGHT?
OK.
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO EAT?
BECAUSE I LIKE HIM
WELL...
THE BEST PART IS. OUR LOVE IS MUTUAL.
I'VE NEVER THOUGHT TO HAVE SUCH A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH ANOTHER GUY
THE WAY HE SAID MADE ME ACCEPTED IT
SO WE STARTED DATING.
HOW ABOUT FISH?
NOT A BAD CHOICE.
Hah?
Very healthy


ジュウ…

I REALLY CAN'T UNDERSTAND HOW COME YOUR ROOM CAN BE SO MESSY.
PROBABLY IT'S MY TALENT?
THAT TYPE OF TALENT IS REDUNDANT
HEHE.
NO WAY. IT'S ONLY TWO DAYS...
NEVER MIND.

EVERYONE HAS HIS OWN GOOD AND BAD POINTS.
EH.
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO COOK.
SO I'M REALLY HAPPY WHEN I GET TO EAT YOUR HOME-COOKED MEALS.

I'LL CLEAN YOUR ROOM FOR YOU AS MY GRATITUDE.
THAT'S HOW IT IS?
YES.

IT'S NICE TO KNOW SOMEONE LOVES TO EAT MY HOME-COOKED MEALS.
REALLY? GOOD TO HEAR THAT.
MY SKILL HAS IMPROVED.
I'M FULL.
IT'S VERY GOOD.
WE'VE JUST EATEN. REST FIRST.
NO!
WASH THEM LATER.
I'LL WASH THE DISHES FOR YOU.
LET ME STAY HERE TONIGHT.
IN EX-CHANGE FOR THAT...
Ah. You got me there
I'M SORRY.
IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE ALWAYS LIKE THAT, THAT'S WHY YOUR ROOM IS SO MESSY!

MOST WELCOME.

I CAN SLEEP BETTER.
WITH YOU AROUND ..

BY ALL MEANS.

OK.

SENSEI.
THANKS FOR LETTING ME TO USE THE SHOWER.

KONISHI-SAN, COME HERE.
OK.
AH...
LET'S SLEEP.
WE STILL NEED TO WORK TO-MORROW.
OK
WHAT.
!

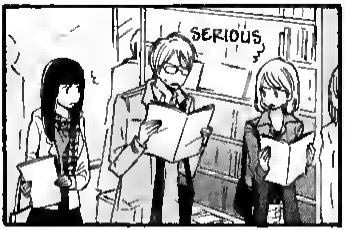
IF WE CONTINUE...
WHAT SHOULD I DO...LIKE THIS, IS IT...
KONISHI-SAN.
EH?
WAH...
Haha.
KONISHI-SAN.
YES.
HE SMELLS GOOD TODAY, TOO.
SNIFF
SNIFF
SNIFF
.....

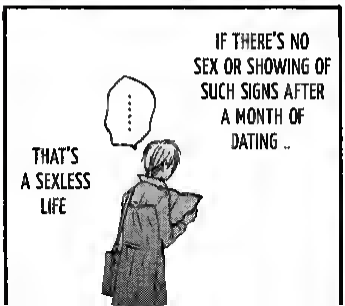
ARE WE REALLY DOING IT...
NN.
NN..
SUCH A GOOD KISSER..
WE WILL, RIGHT...

WAH. .
I MADE SOME WEIRD SOUNDS...
WAH!
I'M SORRY
I...
OK.
TIME TO SLEEP.
EH?

EH
WITH THAT, SHOULDN'T WE BE DOING IT?
"EH"?
EH!
WHAT?
WITH ..
DID I MAKE A MISTAKE? I THOUGHT WE'D BE GOING WITH THE FLOW.
THAT'S ..
FOR HOW LONG ARE WE GOING TO JUST KISS AND SLEEP TOGETHER?
HAA. WELL...
ARE YOU THE PLATONIC TYPE?
NO. NOT THAT.
THEN WHY WON'T WE DO IT?
WELL.
IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME ONLY.

OK...

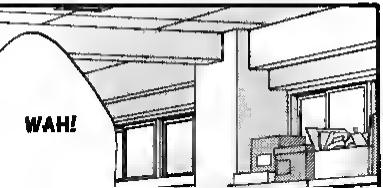

SERIOUS


IF THERE'S NO SEX OR SHOWING OF SUCH SIGNS AFTER A MONTH OF DATING ..
.....
THAT'S A SEXLESS LIFE

Isn't this..
.....

SEXLESS LIFE

"IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME."
CAUSING DISINTEREST IN SEX..
BESIDES HAVING A MISMATCHED SEX LIFE, YOUR PARTNER MIGHT BE CHEATING ON YOU
IT HAS BEEN TWO MONTHS SINCE OUR FIRST TOUCH.
HOW LONG WILL THAT BE?
MATTER OF TIME...


WAH!

IT'S THE OPENING CEREMONY TODAY.
YEAH, I KNOW THAT.
Don't be late.
Ok.
I'm going first.
YOU LECTURED ME DURING THE CLOSING CEREMONY.
EH?
YOU SAID IT'S THE ONE AND ONLY MEMORY FOR THE STUDENTS, WE SHOULD TAKE IT SERIOUSLY
I SEE
I DID REFLECT ON IT.
YEP.
HOW SURPRISING TO SEE YOU WEARING SO FORMAL.
AH.
DID YOU APPLY BODY MIST?
EH?
NOT AT--

ALL...
Sniff
Sniff
WAH.
Sniff
Sniff
IT'S EVEN BETTER THAN USUAL.
WHY?
KONISHI SENSEI...
WHAT'S WRONG?
AH.
NO.
NOTHING AT ALL. SORRY.
HIS FACE'S SO CLOSE..
REALLY?

NAGUMO SENSEI?

TODAY...
IS SO TIRING.
BUT THE FRESHMEN WERE GOOD. I SENSED SOME YOUTH POWER.
YOU'RE THE HOMEROOM FOR THE SECOND YEARS?
YES.
IT'S YOUR FIRST TIME AS A HOMEROOM TEACHER.
YOU CAN DISCUSS WITH ME ANYTIME.
NAGUMO SENSEI TALKS A LOT MORE TODAY
THANK YOU.

HE'S ACTING WEIRD SINCE MORNING.
ALTHOUGH IT'S TOUGH DOING HOMEROOM, IT'S WORTH IT.
WHAT'S WRONG
AH.
HE STILL SMELLS SO GOOD
CAN I SIT CLOSER?
EH?
I'VE NEVER HAD SUCH FEELINGS FOR SOMEONE LIKE THIS BEFORE.
TODAY...
YOU LOOKED SO COOL.
I ALMOST COULDN'T RECOGNISE YOU.

KONISHI...
IT'S SPECIAL.
AND TODAY...
THIS SHOULD BE LOVE.
YOU SMELL REALLY GOOD.
INDEED.
IT'S EMBARRASSING ONCE I REALISED IT.
NN.

I CAN FINALLY MAKE UP MY MIND NOW.
HUH?
?
KONISHI-SAN.
I'VE BEEN THINKING.
WHAT YOU LIKED IS ONLY MY SCENT.

LET'S ONLY MEET IN SCHOOL.
IN FUTURE...

EH?
ERM.
DID I DO SOMETHING TO MAKE YOU HATE ME?
WHAT...
NO.
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT.
WHAT'S GOING ON?
I JUST DON'T WANT TO FORCE YOU TO GO OUT WITH ME.
SAYING THAT YOU LIKE ME...
IT'S A MAGIC I PUT ON YOU.
AND THE MAGIC WILL BE GONE SOMEDAY.
HAH?

KONISHI-SAN, WHAT YOU LIKE IS ONLY MY SCENT.
NOT ME.
ARE...
ARE YOU AN IDIOT?
WHAT DID YOU TAKE ME AS?
WHY DO I HAVE TO CHOOSE YOU THEN?
WHY DO I HAVE TO KISS AN OLD MAN WHO'S TEN YEARS MY SENIOR?
ACK!
WHY DO I HAVE TO SLEEP IN THE SAME BED WITH A BIG BLOCK-HEAD WITH BED HAIR?
IF I DON'T LIKE YOU, I'D HAVE LEFT!

"Sexless Special"
EH!
THIS...
IF I DON'T CARE ABOUT YOU, WHY DO I HAVE TO READ THIS?
I WAS SO BOTHERED, JUST LIKE AN IDIOT!
WHAT'S WITH THE MAGIC?
A SCIENCE TEACHER SAYING SOMETHING SO ILLOGICAL?
DO YOU THINK YOUR MAGIC REALLY WORKS?
YOUR SCENT WAS INDEED THE STIMULUS.
BUT I REALLY LIKE YOU!
YOU'VE GOT A PROBLEM?

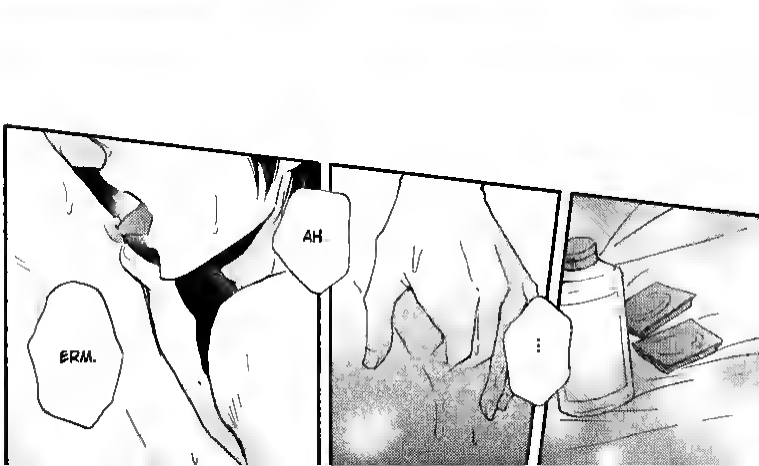
EH.
YOU LIKE ME?
REALLY? ME?
I LIKE YOU.
!!!
BUT KONISHI-SAN...
ALTHOUGH YOU WERE THE ONE WHO CAME CLOSE TO ME...
YOUR REACTION WAS REALLY HUGE WHEN I TOUCHED YOU.
HAH? BUT I DIDN'T AVOID IT!
YOU DID!
I DID NOT!
I WAS REALLY HURT.

TWITCH
SEE!
Cries.
YOU DID! YOU HATE ME!
AH...
THAT WAS...
PURELY...
MY EMBARRASSMENT...
EH?

I'M JUST NOT USED TO...
YOU TOUCHING ME SO GENTLY
CAN'T I?

COURSE...
YOU CAN!
OF..
I...
LIKE YOU SO MUCH.
I WON'T FORGIVE YOU IF YOU DUMP ME!
TAKE RESPONSIBILITY!
IS IT REALLY OK?

IT SUITS ME JUST FINE.
I'LL LET YOU KNOW..
FOR HOW LONG I'VE BEEN HOLD-ING BACK.


ERM.
AH.
...

NAGUMO SENSEI...
YEAH?
HAVE YOU DONE IT WITH ANOTHER GUY BEFORE?
Ah
OF COURSE NOT!
How could that be?
YOU SEEM GOOD AT IT.
Ah
WHY ARE YOU...
I SPENT THE PAST 2 MONTHS STUDYING!
WHAT A GOOD STUDENT.
Ah
Ah
OF COURSE.
I DON'T WANT YOU TO HAVE A BAD EXPERIENCE.
BECAUSE OF ME?
WHO ELSE...
WOULD I DO THAT FOR?

YEAH.
AH!
NN...
AH...
HAA.

SENSEI...
NAGUMO SENSEI.
AH...
NO...
NN..
NO..
NN...
SORRY, KONISHI-SAN..
NN...
I GOT REALLY SCARED.
AH...
IT'S AMAZING.

HIS SCENT BECAME REALLY SWEET.
WHEN I FEEL MY LOVE FOR HIM...
AH...
AH.
KONISHI-SAN
AH...
I LOVE YOU.

WHEN HE TOLD ME THAT...
HIS SCENT...
ME, TOO.
BECAME SWEETER.
I LOVE YOU SO MUCH.
IT'S FULL OF LOVE

Haa We finally made it.
HOW RARE.
BOTH OF YOU JUST MADE IT IN TIME. HOMEROOM'S STARTING.
SORRY. I DIDN'T HEAR THE ALARM.
KONISHI SENSEI SWITCHED OFF MY PHONE ALARM.
And it's the new term.
!!
EH? YOU'RE STAYING AT NAGUMO SENSEI'S PLACE?
WELL.
I remember you two stay at the dorm
Stupid! Why did you say that?
Don't worry about it
AND...
YOU BOTH SMELL THE SAME. IS IT THE SHOWER GEL?
!
IT'S THE PROOF OF US BEING CLOSE!
AH. HOW NICE
!!
なんだかいいにおい 第2話 END

なんだか
いいにおい
somehow
good smell

IN THE SCHOOL STAFF OFFICE, KONISHI SENSEI SITS BESIDE ME
HE'S ALSO MY LOVER PROBABLY
YES?
WELL.
I JUST THINK LIFE IS SO UNPREDICTABLE. YOU WOULDN'T KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT
HAH...
I THINK SO, TOO
BUT WHY IS YOUR DESK SO MESSY AGAIN?
IS IT SO BAD?
TIDY IT UP!
BUT...
NO "BUTS"!
IT WAS UNEXPECTED

MY JUNIOR IS MY COL-LEAGUE AND ANOTHER GUY
NN.
AH!
AH..
KONISHI-SAN...
NAGUMO SENSEI...
GOOD?
YEAH.
AH.

ABOUT 5 TO 6
HMM
NOT ONE COULD LAST LONG.
ERM
I'VE ONLY DATED WOMEN BEFORE.
WHY WE'D BREAK UP.
I STILL COULDN'T FIND ANY REASON...
UNTIL NOW...
KISS
YES.
REALLY?
HOW ABOUT YOU? YOUR PAST LOVE RELATION-SHIPS.
AND PROBABLY SHE ALSO THOUGHT THE SAME.
I FELT SOMETHING DIFFERENT DURING DATING.

HAHA!
FOR REAL?
I CAN ONLY REMEMBER I ALWAYS GOT DUMPED.
YES.
ME?
WELL...
AH
I SHOULD GO BACK.
WHY NOT STAY FOR THE NIGHT?
I SEE.
THERE'S A TRAINEE COMING TOMORROW.
I'M HIS MENTOR SO I NEED TO PREPARE FOR IT.
YES
I WAS A MENTOR FOR A FEW TIMES IT WAS QUITE TEDIOUS.
I THOUGHT SO, TOO.

IT'S YOUR FIRST TIME AS A HOMEROOM TEACHER AND THE ADVISOR FOR THREE CLUBS, RIGHT? IT'S TOUGH.
LOOK FOR ME ANYTIME IF YOU NEED HELP.
I'LL TELL YOU WHATEVER I CAN.
OK.
THANKS
HAHA.
NAGUMO SENSEI?
NN
SQUEEZE
DO YOUR BEST.
OK.

IT'LL BE REAL SOON FOR ME TO BE ABLE TO STAY OVER
BUT WHEN THE MENTORING STARTS.
JUST ONLY A WEEK HAS PASSED
Urgh...
I THINK YOU'LL HAVE TO TIDY IT YOURSELF.
KONISHI SENSEI ALMOST STAYS AT THE LANGUAGE PREP ROOM NOW.
YEAH.
HE'S REALLY PASSIONATE.
EVER SINCE THAT DAY...

PREPARATION ROOM
HE SELDOM APPEARS IN THE STAFF ROOM, OF COURSE, NOT AT MY PLACE AT ALL.
QUITE WELL DONE
THANK YOU.
YOU CAN DO IT IF YOU WANT TO.
THAT'S BECAUSE I WANT YOU TO PRAISE ME, KONISHI SENSEI.
I DID MY BEST!
WHAT WAS THAT?
…?
PRAISE ME MORE.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

YES?
YOU'RE LOOKING FOR ME?
NAGUMO SENSEI
.....
NOT REALLY.
I JUST PASSED BY.
I SEE
KONISHI SENSEI.
LET'S CONTINUE.
THE TRAINEE, KITAMI SENSEI

SORRY, NAGUMO SENSEI.
NOT AT ALL. I WAS THE ONE BOTHERING YOU.
ABOUT THIS PART ..
YEAH.
.....

THE STAFF MEETING WILL END NOW.
KONISHI SENSEI.
YES.

I KNOW YOU'RE BUSY LATELY. HAVE YOU BEEN EATING PROPERLY?
IF YOU CAN, DO YOU WANT TO HAVE DINNER AT MY PLACE TONIGHT?
SORRY
I CAN'T MAKE IT TODAY.
I SEE.
KITAMI SENSEI'S COMING TO MY PLACE
AH.. HAH?
I SEE.
HE'S GOING TO DO A TEACHING GUIDE USING SOME OF MY MATERIALS BACK HOME.
OK.
HOW ABOUT TOMORROW ...
KONISHI SENSEI.

I'M DONE. I CAN LEAVE ANYTIME.
OK.
LET'S GO.
OK.
Hehe
SEE YOU TOMORROW, NAGUMO SENSEI.
"Hehe"?
OK.
I'm so excited
My house is full of books
EH, KITAMI SENSEI
COMING FROM YOU ..

IT'S QUITE A NICE SMELL.
YES?
WHAT IS IT?
NOTHING.
REALLY?
YEAH, REALLY...
ERM.

KNOCK
SCIENCE PREP ROOM

PLEASE COME IN.

EXCUSE ME.

SEE YOU.

NAGUMO SENSEI?

NOTHING IMPORTANT.
I JUST CAME TO CHAT.
Oh.
I HEARD BOTH YOU AND KONISHI SENSEI... STAY IN THE SAME APARTMENT BLOCK.
YES?
THERE ARE A LOT OF OTHER TEACHERS STAYING THERE AS WELL.
YES
THAT'S PROVIDED BY THE SCHOOL FOR THE TEACHERS.
HMM

CAN YOU GO STRAIGHT TO THE POINT?
KONISHI SENSEI..
HE'S REALLY CUTE.
WELL.
HAH?
HIS SMILE, FOR EXAMPLE.
HE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE HE'S OLDER THAN ME
HE'S VERY GENTLE AND CARING.

HE PROMISED ME THAT I CAN LOOK FOR HIM EVEN AFTER MY TRAINING'S OVER
KONISHI SENSEI KNOWS HOW TO TAKE CARE OF PEOPLE.

HE'S GOOD TO EVERYONE.
HMM.
SO IN OTHER WORDS, NAGUMO SENSEI...
YOU'VE BEEN USING HIS FEELINGS BECAUSE HE'S KIND, RIGHT?
HOW AWFUL.
WHAT... ARE YOU SAYING?

AH!
AH...
ドンッ
HOW COULD YOU BE SO VIOLENT?
DO YOU THINK THAT'S OK?
WAH!
HOW COULD I...
EH...
SEN-SEI
NAGUMO SENSEI GOT ANGRY.
HAH?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
WHAT'S WITH YOU TWO?

HE HIT ME SUDDENLY.
IT WAS SO SHOCKING!
HOW CAN SUCH A PERSON BE A TEACHER?
NAGUMO SENSEI?
.....
EVERYTHING WILL BE ALL RIGHT ONCE I INFORMED THE HEAD-MASTER.
WE CAN'T HAVE SUCH A VIOLENT TEACHER HERE.
KONISHI SENSEI, FOR SOMEONE LIKE HIM..
STOP IT!
EH.
THAT'S ENOUGH, KYOUHEI!
Eh? "Kyouhei"?
BUT, YUU-CHAN.

Yuu-chan…?
I DON'T GET IT, YUU-CHAN.
WHY ARE YOU GOING OUT WITH SUCH AN OLD MAN?
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.
IT IS!
WHEN I HEARD YOU WERE DATING WITH YOUR COLLEAGUE, I THOUGHT SHE WAS A BEAUTY!
IN THE END, IT'S A GUY AND A VIOLENT ONE!
YOU'RE BEING RUDE.
I'M SAYING THE TRUTH!
NAGUMO SENSEI...
WON'T HIT ANYONE RECKLESSLY!
I'M SURE OF THAT!
STOP YOUR NONSENSE, KYOUHEI!

KYOUHEI.. KITAMI SENSEI...
HOW ARE YOU TWO RELATED?
APOLOGISE
BUT...
HE'S MY COUSIN.
OH.
EXCUSE ME...
YES, SORRY.
YUU-CHAN.
COUSIN!?
LISTEN! I WON'T GIVE YUU-CHAN TO YOU!
Cousin ...
That's enough! Go back!
Stop it!
Damn
No!

SO LONG?
I didn't realize during the training period!!
YES.
TEN DAYS OF RUBBISH. I NEED TO TIDY NOW.
NO.
TEN DAYS?
KONISHI-SAN, YOU HAVEN'T BEEN HERE FOR TEN DAYS.
THIS...
EH?
SIT DOWN FIRST.

NAGUMO SENSEI!
YES?
STAY QUIET FOR A WHILE.
AH.
I DIDN'T THINK THAT KYOUHEI WOULD LOOK FOR YOU. I'M SORRY.
EH?
I'M NOT MATURE ENOUGH.
We're the same.
HE WAS CLINGY WHEN WE WERE YOUNG. I ALSO TOOK CARE OF HIM.
DURING OUR FAMILY GATHERING OVER THE NEW YEAR, HE ASKED IF I WAS ATTACHED.
I DIDN'T KNOW HE'D BE A TRAINEE AT OUR SCHOOL.
SO I TOLD HIM I'M DATING MY COLLEAGUE, NAGUMO SENSEI.
I SEE.
SORRY.
NO WORRIES.
DON'T TALK FOR NOW.

I CAN FINALLY HOLD YOU PROPERLY.
.....
YOUR SCENT...
IS THE BEST.
Sniff
Sniff
Sniff
Sniff
.....
Sniff

HAH? ME?
YES.
WHERE AND WHEN WAS THAT?
OH.
IN THE OFFICE ...
EH?
YOU...
YOU SAID KITAMI SMELLED NICE, TOO.
I WAS REALLY HURT.
I THOUGHT YOU PREFERRED YOUNGER ONES
WHY...
EH.
WHY DID YOU HURT YOURSELF?
IT HAS GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH AGE!
BUT ...
HIS COLOGNE!
ARE YOU STILL LIKE THIS?
YOU IDIOT!

EVEN IF YOU WANT TO EAVESDROP, DO IT UNTIL THE END.
I ALSO TOLD HIM NOT TO OVERDO IT DURING TRAINING

EH...
I WAS SAYING HE SPRAYED COLOGNE!

EVEN IF THE SCENT'S NICE ..
IT DOESN'T MEAN THAT I LIKE IT.
OK.

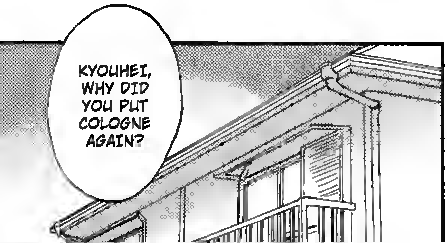
AH!
AH!
KONISHI-SAN
NN
AH...
AH!
I'M...
NOT CONFIDENT
AND I'M OLDER THAN YOU...
?
AH!

I KEEP THINKING THAT YOU DESERVE A BETTER PARTNER
SO I ALWAYS STAY BEHIND.
BECAUSE UNTIL NOW...
IT'S MY FIRST TIME...
LOVING SOMEONE WITHOUT ANY REASON.
FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.
LOVING YOU...
PAMPERING YOU...

I WANT TO STAY WITH YOU FOREVER
I WANT TO BIND YOU TO ME.
OF COURSE IN THE FUTURE...
EVEN IF YOU WANT TO LEAVE, I'LL NEVER LET YOU GO.
EVEN SO, CAN YOU ACCEPT IT?

あああああ
KONISHI-SAN?
.....
EVEN..
"Even"?
EVEN IF YOU WANT TO BREAK UP WITH ME..
I WON'T EVER LEAVE YOU.

YEAH...


KYOUHEI, WHY DID YOU PUT COLOGNE AGAIN?

MAKE-UP × DINNER
Sniff
THE GRILLED MEAT'S DONE.
YEAH.
AND DIDN'T YOU SAY IT'S NICE?
THE TRAINING'S OVER
WHY DO I HAVE TO EAT WITH YOU TWO? I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS.
Sniff
Sniff
Sniff
HMM
I STILL LIKE HIS SCENT. IT'S TOTALLY DIFFERENT.
!!
I DON'T GET WHAT YOU MEAN!
IT DOESN'T MATTER EVEN IF YOU DON'T GET IT.
Now, stop fighting
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!
I WON'T ACCEPT YOU!
NOTED, NOTED.
STOP GIVING OFF LOVE BEAMS IN FRONT OF ME!

LATELY, HE'S GETTING MORE AT EASE DURING SEX
Sniff
Sniff
Sniff
なんだか いいにおい
SOMEHOW GOOD SMELL
- AFTERWARD -

EVERY PART OF YOU SMELLS GOOD.
※ ARMPIT
Sniff
Sniff
I'm glad to hear that.
KONISHI-SAN.
WAIT.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

AH.
SORRY. PLEASE DO.
OK.
CAN WE CONTINUE?
HERE...
Sniff
ERM
Sniff
KONISHI-SAN.
Chuu ♡
Chuu ♡
NAGUMO SENSEI.
STARE
Eh?
KONISHI-SAN?
HAA.
AH...
AH...

ERM
CAN I? OVER HERE...
EH?
EH?
EH?
CAN I?
.....
Eh..
He wants to sniff it?
STARE
Haha.
He really wants to sniff it?
AS...
YOU WISH...
If you want to
EXCUSE ME
So cute.
REALLY?

EH...
WAIT.
EH...
EH.
ERM...
HMM?
YOU DON'T FEEL GOOD?
NO!
THAT'S NOT IT! I FEEL VERY GOOD.
I'M GLAD...
YOU'RE ALWAYS DOING THIS TO ME, SO I...
KONISHI-SAN...
:

I WAS SURPRISED, BUT I'M HAPPY.
I THOUGHT YOU ONLY WANTED TO SNIFF IT.
OH
OF COURSE I WANT TO.
Sniff
Sniff
YOU SMELL REALLY AMAZING HERE, TOO.
.....
Ah. I got it already It's so embarrassing
Smitten
IT'S ENOUGH.
EH? BUT YOU HAVEN'T... COME YET.
And I haven't sniff enough
FORGET THAT.
COME TO ME NOW.
SERIOUSLY ...

なんだかいいにおい後日談。／END

©RYOKO CHIBA
NOT FOR SALE

かぁいくないよ
NOT LOVELY!

WOAH, MICHIYA.
YOUR FACE'S REALLY BASHED UP
I'VE WANTED TO BECOME STRONGER EVER SINCE YOUNG.

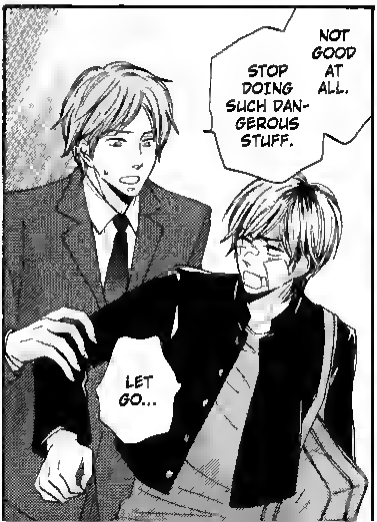
BECAUSE I WANTED TO PROTECT MY WEAK NEIGHBOUR, NATSUKI-CHAN
THANK YOU.
Cough
Cough
NATSUKI-CHAN, I'LL PAT YOUR BACK
I WISHED I COULD GROW UP FASTER INTO A STRONGER AND BETTER MAN
Cough
MICCHAN, YOU'RE SO CARING.
I'M GLAD.

BUT A PITY
THERE ISN'T A NEED FOR ME RIGHT NOW
Are you all right?
MICHIYA, DO YOU HEAR ME?

NATSUKI-CHAN LOOKS BETTER AFTER HE GREW UP AND BECAME HEALTHIER
HE'S AN ELITE SALARY MAN WORKING IN A GREAT COMPANY NOW
NN.
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS
YOU'RE SO WEAK WHY ARE YOU GETTING INTO FIGHTS EVERYDAY?
WHEN WILL YOUR INJURIES HEAL?
WHO'S WEAK!
AND WHEN I'M FINALLY IN HIGH SCHOOL...
YOU'RE DEFINITELY NOT STRONG.
MY GRADES AND SPORTS ARE ALL BELOW AVERAGE
I
YOU THINK THAT I CAN DO NOTHING WELL!
EVEN IF I'M GOOD IN FIGHTING...
MY FACE'S STILL THE SAME.
I didn't say that
MICHIYA

I WENT TO NATSUKI'S OFFICE TO LOOK FOR HIM BEFORE.
WHAT A HUGE BUILD-ING
HE LOOKED JUST LIKE A STRANGER WALKING OUT FROM THE BUILD-ING.
I REALISED FOR THE FIRST TIME, I WAS AT A WRONG PLACE.
HEY!
PROBABLY RIGHT FROM THE START...
WE AREN'T STANDING AT THE SAME STARTING POINT.
YOU'RE MIZUSAWA FROM TOUKOU, RIGHT?

YES.
WHAT DO YOU WANT?


NOT GOOD AT ALL.
STOP DOING SUCH DANGEROUS STUFF.
LET GO...

DON'T BOTHER.

HEY.
WHY ARE YOUR INJURIES MORE THAN THIS MORNING?

DON'T TOUCH ME!
AH
ACTUALLY IT HURTS A LOT, RIGHT?
MICCHAN, YOU CAN REALLY ENDURE SINCE YOUNG.
DON'T CALL ME "MIC-CHAN"!
YOU NEVER CRIED WHEN YOU FELL DOWN.
A STRONG BOY.
THAT'S...
BECAUSE I DON'T WANT NATSUKI TO FEEL THAT I'M A CRY BABY.
A BRAT ACTING LIKE AN ADULT.
COME OVER MY PLACE TO HAVE DINNER.
YOUR MOM'S ON NIGHT SHIFT TODAY, RIGHT?
OK?

I HEARD THERE'LL BE YOUR FAVOURITE CABBAGE ROLL.
BUT...
DON'T BOTHER.
REALLY NO.
WHY? IT'S BEEN A WHILE AND MY MOM WILL BE HAPPY.
LET'S GO.
REALLY?
THEN I BRING THEM OVER AFTER SHE'S DONE.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO.
EVEN IF I GROW OLDER...
REALLY, I DON'T WANT TO GO LET GO.

.....
AND MY INJURIES ARE GETTING MORE EACH DAY.
I'M ALWAYS A BRAT IN NATSUKI'S EYES.

IT'S PAIN-FUL.
BH?
NATSUKI?
MICHIYA.
WHY ARE YOU STANDING HERE?
NOTHING
HOW COULD IT BE...
NA-TSUKI!
ARE YOU HAVING AN ATTACK?
NOTHING SERIOUS.
You look pale.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
WHY ARE YOUR INJURIES GETTING MORE?
I THINK YOU SHOULD REALLY TREAT THEM FIRST.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME HOLD MY HAND FIRST.
I'M FINE.

I'M FINE
I CAN WALK BY MYSELF
BUT...

MICCHAN, THANK YOU.
HE'LL BE FINE.
CAN I GO AND SEE HIM?
SURE
NATSUKI.

YOU'RE HAVING AN ATTACK AGAIN.
MICHIYA?
I'M COMING IN.
DON'T COME IN.
WHY...
I DON'T WANT TO PASS IT TO YOU.
I MIGHT HAVE A COLD..
IS ASTHMA CONTA-GIOUS?
NATSUKI.
SORRY.
WHY NOT? I...

I'M... FINE
ARE YOU OK?
I GET IT.
I WON'T BOTHER YOU ANY-MORE
EH ..
MIC-CHAN...
AH

I'M SO PATHETIC.
!

Here your bag
DON'T WORRY. HE'LL HAVE AN ATTACK ONCE OR TWICE YEARLY.
SOMETIMES HE'LL HAVE TO LIE IN BED LIKE THIS.

AUNT, NATSUKI ...
YEAH

EXCUSE ME.
YOU'RE LEAVING?

I...
DIDN'T EVEN KNOW.
WE THOUGHT HE WAS WELL, TOO.
BUT COMPARED TO BEFORE, HE'S BETTER NOW
HE PROBABLY DIDN'T WANT YOU TO WORRY SO HE DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING.
YOU USED TO VISIT HIM LIKE THIS IN THE PAST.
HE COULDN'T GO OUT MUCH IN THE PAST.
I WAS GLAD THAT YOU WERE THERE TO SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE HIM
I ALSO WANTED TO STAY WITH HIM TODAY.
YOU HAVE TO COME AGAIN.

I WANTED TO TALK TO HIM AND TAKE CARE OF HIM.
DON'T COME IN!
REALLY.
IT'S NOT THE SAME ANYMORE.
I'LL MOVE OUT
AFTER I GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL
FIND SOME TOWN COLLEGE
AND BE A COLLEGE STUDENT
MAYBE I CAN FORGET EVERYTHING THEN.

I'VE BEEN STAYING TOO CLOSE TO HIM

NATSUKI.
I HOPE YOU CAN GET WELL SOON.

I DON'T KNOW WHY I EVEN GOT INTO FIGHTS IN THE FIRST PLACE.
I FINALLY WON
I CAN NEVER BE STRONGER THAN NOW NO MATTER HOW MUCH I FIGHT.
SINCE I'VE ALREADY DECIDED TO LEAVE HIM...
HAA.
HAA.
MICHIYA.
YOU LOOK WELL.
THANK GOODNESS.
YEAH.
AH.

THANKS FOR THE OTHER TIME
ALTHOUGH YOU CHASED ME AWAY..
EH..
WELL...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
YOU FOUGHT AGAIN?
YOU'RE BLEEDING.
...
DON'T TOUCH ME!
WAH!

AH.
DON'T HAVE TO BEHAVE LIKE THAT EVEN IF YOU'RE ANGRY.
YOU..
YOU'RE REALLY WEIRD LATELY, MICHIYA.
YOUR FIGHTS SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE TORMENTING YOURSELF.
HOW COULD THAT BE?
YOU CAN TELL ME IF SOMETHING HAPPENED. I CAN HELP YOU.
DON'T ACT LIKE A SPOILED KID.
I'M NOT!
YOU AREN'T CUTE LIKE THAT!
WHY WOULD A GUY BE CUTE?
HOW COULD I TELL HIM?
YOU ARE.

YOU'RE REALLY CUTE.
EH.
MICHIYA?
IT'LL ONLY CAUSE HIM TROUBLE
IF HE KNOWS OF MY FEELINGS
SO I CAN'T SAY.
THAT WAS...
I CAN NEVER SAY IT
MIZU-SAWA..

!
EH?
!
YOU DON'T HAVE MANY FRIENDS, RIGHT?
BEING ALONE IS AN EASY TARGET. JUST LIKE NOW.
WE CAME TO CLARIFY A RUMOUR.
WE HEARD THAT WE CAN SLEEP WITH YOU IF WE WIN.
EH?
ARE YOU IDIOTS?
WE WANT TO TRY, TOO.
WE HEARD MANY HAD A TASTE OF YOU.
HAH!?
How could that be?

I'M THE IDIOTIC ONE
EVEN IF I BECAME STRONGER THROUGH ALL THOSE FIGHTS...
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF IT'S FALSE
EXACTLY.
RIGHT?
I'M VERY CURIOUS
HOW DO TWO GUYS DO IT...
HAH..
CUT IT OUT!
CALM DOWN.
HOW CAN I PROTECT NATSUKI WITH JUST THAT?
YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO GET HURT.
HE WOULDN'T KNOW HOW I FEEL
AH!
OH! GOOD REAC-TION!!
HOLD HIS LEGS.
STOP!
THAT'S WHY YOUR FACE IS SO BASHED UP.
OR YOU LIKE IT?
IT'S MEANING-LESS.
NN!
AH...

I WON'T SEE NATSUKI ANYMORE.
LET THEM HAVE THEIR WAY.
GIVING UP?
NOT RESISTING?
IT'S THE SAME IF IT'S NOT NATSUKI.
POLICE!
SIR! OVER THERE

LET'S GO!
HURRY!
OH NO!
SOMEONE'S FIGHTING OVER THERE.
I WAS CHASING AFTER YOU!
NATSU-KI.
WHY...
EH. YOUR CLOTHES...
MICHIYA!!

NATSUKI'S WORRIED ABOUT ME
AH
I WAS SO MEAN TO HIM EARLIER
!
COME BACK WITH ME
FIX YOUR CLOTHES.
AH
BUT HE'S STILL WILLING TO HOLD MY HAND AND TAKE ME HOME.

DID THEY HIT YOUR FACE?
THEY DIDN'T DO MUCH.
EH...
TAKE OFF YOUR T-SHIRT.
YOU MUST BE HURT ALL OVER
AH. YEAH.
YOU'RE BRUISED EVERY-WHERE
I TOLD YOU TO STOP FIGHTING.
WHAT WERE THEY DOING TO YOU?
THOSE BASTARDS ...

SORRY.
MICHIYA.
PLEASE DON'T MAKE ME WORRY!!
EH
THEY LEFT KISS MARKS ON YOU!

DAMN

.....
EH?
EH?
MICHIYA...
YOU DON'T KNOW...
HOW IMPORTANT YOU ARE TO ME.
DO YOU?
NO WAY...
I'M SO ANGRY.
I KEPT SEEING NEW INJURIES ON YOU EVERY DAY.
YOU WOULDN'T LISTEN TO ME AT ALL.

AFTER I'VE SAID SO MUCH, THOSE BASTARDS STILL TRIED TO DO SOMETHING TO YOU.
AH, DAMN. I'M SO ANGRY.
MICHIYA...
AH...
AH!
AH...
AH..
MICHIYA...

AH...
HOW DO YOU FEEL?
NN..
I DON'T KNOW..
AH..
AH..
WHY NOT?
YOU'RE SO HARD.
I REALLY DON'T KNOW.
BUT I'M HAPPY.
VERY HAPPY.

SORRY.
I CAN'T HOLD IT.
RELAX.
EH.
WHAT...
MICHIYA.
MICHIYA.
PAINFUL...
I WON'T HURT YOU.
NO..
MICHIYA.
EVER SINCE YOUNG..
I HATED MYSELF FOR BEING SO WEAK.

HE HAD THE SAME THOUGHTS LIKE ME?
BECAUSE I WANTED TO PROTECT YOU.
I WANTED TO GROW UP SOON ...
AND BECAME STRONGER.
EH?
AH!
AH ..
.....
I THOUGHT...
HAA
IT'S IN.
CAN YOU FEEL IT?
...

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
EH!
YOU..
DON'T WANT ME ANY-MORE...
LISTEN
PROMISE ME.
AH.
AH!
IF YOU DON'T PROMISE ME, WE'LL STAY LIKE THIS.
AH
AH!
YOU WILL NEVER FIGHT AGAIN.
HAA.
HAA.
I WON'T LET YOU COME.
EH-.
AH!

YOU'RE CRYING.
THE FIRST TIME SEEING YOU CRIED ...
I PROMISE YOU.
SO...
DON'T TEASE ME ANY-MORE.
NATSUKI-CHAN.
MICHI-YA.
MICHIYA.

BE-
CAUSE...
I DON'T GET INTO FIGHTS ANYMORE.
YOUR INJURIES ARE ALMOST HEALED.
.....
?
ON THE OTHER HAND...
I'M MORE WORRIED
It's a torture ....
WITH YOU FACE LOOKING LIKE THIS NOW...
JUST SAY IT already!

かわいくないよ／END

すなおになるよ
I keep mild.

HE'S MY NEIGH-BOUR, NATSUKI-CHAN.
I'VE FINALLY CONNECTED WITH MY UN-REQUITED LOVE.
IT WAS JUST LIKE A DREAM.
MORNING, MICHIYA.

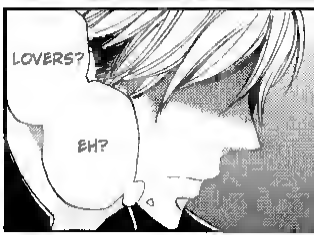
GOOD MORNING.
IT'S A SURPRISE TO SEE YOU AT THIS TIME.
YES.
MY WORK'S GETTING BUSIER SO I THOUGHT TO LEAVE EARLIER.
IT SOUNDS TOUGH.
NATSUKI
NATSUKI-CHAN WAS REALLY WEAK WHEN HE WAS YOUNG.
I WANTED TO GROW UP SOON AND PROTECT HIM USING MY STRENGTH
REALLY?
I'M TOTALLY RECHARGED AFTER SEEING YOU IN THE MORNING!
NOT AT ALL!
YEP!
LATELY ...
YOU DIDN'T GET INTO FIGHTS.
I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT SO.

IT'S NOTHING GREAT...
LET'S DO OUR BEST TODAY.
I THOUGHT TO BECOME STRONGER THROUGH FIGHTS.
BUT I MADE NATSUKI WORRIED EVEN MORE.
YOU REALLY KEEP YOUR PROMISE OF NOT FIGHTING.
I'M PROUD OF YOU.
BE CAREFUL ON YOUR WAY.
YOU, TOO, MICHIYA.
I'VE PROMISED NATSUKI NOT TO FIGHT ANYMORE

I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ELSE TO DO EVEN IF I DON'T FIGHT
THE THING IS..
NATSUKI SEEMS BUSY LATELY
WE DON'T REALLY GET TO SEE EACH OTHER MUCH
EVEN THOUGH WE'RE NEIGH-BOURS.
I WAS REALLY BOTHERED EARLIER SO I DIDN'T REALLY TALK TO HIM
AM I TOO GREEDY?
NOW THAT WE'RE LOVERS
AM I ASKING TOO MUCH NOW?

EH...
HANG ON.
ARE WE REALLY LOVERS?

WE'RE ...
LOVERS ...


LOVERS?
EH?

HE DID SAY HE'D PROTECT ME.
BUT...
IT WAS LIKE GOING WITH THE FLOW AND WE HAD TO DO IT.

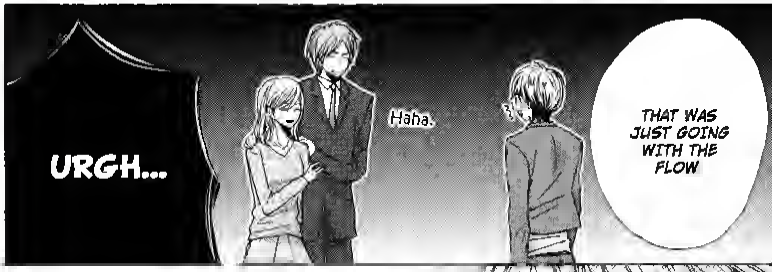
HE DID SAY THAT.
YES.
I WANTED TO PROTECT YOU.

IT'S NOT CONSIDERED LOVERS IF WE ONLY DID IT ONCE?
THAT..
NO. HE'S NOT SUCH A GUY. IMPOSSIBLE.
OR..
..BUT WE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING INTIMATE AFTER THAT.
EVEN THIS MORNING WAS NORMAL, TOO.
!
ARE WE REALLY GOING OUT?
OR NOT AT ALL?

IT'S REALLY BUGGING ME..
IF I DON'T CLEAR THIS UP.
IT'S SO LATE. I'LL WALK YOU TO THE STATION.
I'LL GO AND TALK TO HIM
OK
EH
MICHIYA.
I'M STAYING NEARBY. I CAN JUST CALL A TAXI.
REALLY? THANKS.
I'LL WALK YOU TO THE MAIN ROAD.

WHAT'S WRONG?
AH.
I'M GOING TO THE CONVENIENCE STORE.
EH!
IT'S SO LATE NOW, BE CAREFUL.
OK.
SHE'S MY COLLEAGUE, SAWADA. HE'S MY NEIGHBOUR.
GOOD EVENING.
GOOD EVENING
I'LL WALK HER TO TAKE A CAB
NEIGHBOUR ..
BE...
CAREFUL.

THAT TIME FOR US?
NO WAY. ARE YOU SERIOUS?
AND I
SHE LOOKS SWEET AND GRACEFUL. THEY LOOK GOOD TOGETHER.


URGH...
Haha.
THAT WAS JUST GOING WITH THE FLOW

.....
.....
A DREAM... HUH.
WAH!

HIS COLLEAGUE
!!!
BUT IS IT THE TRUTH?
HEY.
I'M NOT JOKING!
WAIT!
WHAT A JOKE.
I DON'T FIGHT ANY-MORE.
I TOLD YOU..

JUST GIVE ME A BREAK.
DON'T YOU DARE RUN AWAY!
AREN'T YOU FIGHT-ING BACK?
NN... THAT HURTS.
DING DONG
YES?
HELLO.
NATSUKI
I WAS FIGHTING EVERY-DAY.
NO ONE WOULD BELIEVE ME WHEN I TOLD THEM I'M NOT FIGHTING ANYMORE
OH WELL..
PROBABLY THE DEBT THAT I PRE-VIOUSLY OWED. IT CAN'T BE HELPED.

YOU'RE HOME EARLY TODAY.
I THOUGHT TO HAVE DINNER WITH... YOU.
WHAT'S WITH YOUR FACE?
YOU... FOUGHT AGAIN?
NOT EXACTLY.
THEY HIT ME.
I DIDN'T RETALI-ATE
REALLY?
I TOLD YOU NOT TO DO SOMETHING SO DANGER-OUS.
WHAT IF SOMETHING HAPPENS?
...

ARE YOU MY GUARDIAN?
HA?
ANYWAY, I'M ONLY YOUR "NEIGHBOUR"
EH?
NATSUKI.
JUST GO AND BE ALL LOVEY-DOVEY WITH THAT FEMALE COLLEAGUE!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT...
EH!

WHAT'S WRONG, MICHIYA?
OPEN THE DOOR, MICCHAN!
.....
MICHIYA.

I'LL GO BACK NOW
THE ODEN THAT MY MOM MADE.
I LEAVE THE DISH OUTSIDE HERE. REMEMBER TO EAT IT
.....
IF SHE'S JUST A COLLEAGUE.
I SHOULD HAVE JUST ASKED HIM.
I'D ALWAYS GO TO HIS PLACE FOR DINNER WHEREVER MY PARENTS WEREN'T AROUND.
WHEN WE WERE YOUNG...
BUT WE AREN'T GOING OUT...
HE'D FEEL TOO PRESSURISING IF I ASK HIM SUCH QUESTIONS.

HE'S GENTLE AND TREATS ME GOOD.
I LOVE AUNT'S ODEN.
TWO SHARES ...
WHEN NATSUKI FELT BETTER, HE'D ALSO BROUGHT OVER THE DISHES.
WE'D COOK RICE AND EAT TOGETHER.

IT'S NOT TASTY..
EATING ALONE
I DON'T FEEL LONELY WHEN I'M WITH NATSUKI.

EVER SINCE THAT DAY

BUT HOW CAN I LOOK FOR HIM?

CUT IT OUT!
OUCH...
THAT WAS...
ONLY A STUPID RUMOUR THAT YOU CAN DO IT WITH ME IF YOU WIN OVER ME.
THE RUMOUR PREVI-OUSLY..
YOU..
THAT HURTS!
AH

HAH.
IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH WHETHER IT'S FUN OR NOT.
IT'S JUST MY CURIOSITY!
I HIT SOMEONE.
THAT WASN'T EVEN SERIOUS.
IS IT SO FUN TO DO IT WITH A GUY LIKE ME?

WHO'D WANT TO SLEEP WITH YOU?
JUST CURIOUS ...
NATSUKI, TOO
I HAVE NO GOOD POINTS, NOT EVEN MY LOOKS
YOU LOOK PALE DO YOU HAVE TO BE SO SCARED?
YOU SUDDENLY BECAME SO QUIET.
I'M A GUY.
HE FEELS THAT WOMEN ARE BETTER?
AFTER DOING IT ONCE WITH ME ...
LET ME DO IT.
IT WON'T HURT JUST DOING IT ONCE
DON'T TOUCH ME.
BUT...

EVEN IF IT TURNED OUT TO BE MY UNREQUITED LOVE...
I'M TOTALLY SERIOUS.
Wah!
Hey!
I HAVE TO CLEAR THINGS UP.
I MUST

NATSUKI-CHAN!
EH
社
AH.
MICHIYA?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FACE? ARE YOU OK?
EH
I CAME TO APOLO-GISE
I BROKE OUR PROMISE I FOUGHT
AND...
SORRY, NATSU-KI-CHAN
YOU NEED TO TREAT...

I..
REALLY LIKE YOU.
EH.
Oh
EVEN IF...
YOU LIKE HER...
EH.
EH.
I'M MEETING MY BOY-FRIEND. I'M LEAVING FIRST.
EH.
WAIT..
I STILL LIKE YOU!
EXCUSE ME, BUT...
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
EH...
HAVE A GOOD TALK. BYE!

SHE JUST CAME OVER TO PASS ME DOCUMENTS.
BUT SHE WENT TO YOUR PLACE.
I TOLD YOU SHE'S A COLLEAGUE!
SHE HAS A BOYFRIEND.
EH.
JUST FOLLOW ME.
COME WITH ME.
.....

WHAT
NATSUKI.
HEY!
I NEED TO USE THE MEETING ROOM
MY RELATIVE CAME TO PASS ME STUFF.

NATSUKI?
MICHIYA.
HAH?
THAT YOU LIKE ME..
DO YOU MEAN IT?
I'VE CAUSED YOU TROUBLE AGAIN
I...
WHY ARE YOU APOLOGIS-ING?
?
AH.
SORRY.

I DON'T WANT YOU TO BE WITH THAT GIRL.
I'M SO LONELY IF I CAN'T GET TO SEE YOU. I CAN'T STAND IT.
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT HAVE DONE IT ON IMPULSE WITH ME AND I WAS REALLY UPSET.
BUT I GOT SCARED THAT YOU MIGHT HATE ME IF I TOLD YOU THAT.
SO...
HOW COULD THAT BE!
I LIKE YOU SO MUCH.

I WASN'T SURE OF YOUR FEELINGS...
AND I MADE YOU DID IT WITH ME.
I WAS REALLY SCARED THAT YOU'D HATE ME BECAUSE OF THAT.
I...
BECAUSE I LIKE YOU..
SO I WAS ANXIOUS ALSO.
I'VE LIKED YOU..
SINCE A LONG TIME AGO.
I LIKE YOU.

MICHIYA.
ANYTHING'S FINE
I WANT IT.
SO...
YOU CAN DO ANY-THING TO ME
I WANT TO DO IT.
STUPID.
IF YOU SAID THAT...
I WOULDN'T KNOW WHAT I'D DO TO YOU.

NATSU-KI-CHAN.
THAT'S ENOUGH.
YOU'D DIRTY THE SOFA.
HAA.
AH...
NN..
MICHIYA ...
AH.
NN.
HAA.
AH.

AH!
AH!
HAA.
AH...
AH!
AH!
MICHIYA.
PROMISE ME ANOTHER THING
YOU HAVE TO TELL ME...
HOW YOU FEEL IN FUTURE.
HAA.
IN DOUBT...
OR NERVOUS, SUCH NEGATIVE FEELINGS ...
LET THEM DISAPPEAR

I ONLY WANT YOU, MICHIYA.
WE WANT TO BE TOGETHER BECAUSE OF LOVE.
THAT'S ALL.
AH!
I DON'T CARE ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE.
I WANT TO PROTECT YOU.
THIS IS HAPPINESS.
AH...

I LIKE YOU.
YEAH.
SO MUCH.
ME, TOO.
NOW AND FOREVER.
I WANT TO BE PROTECTED BY YOU.
ME, TOO.
I FEEL THE SAME ..
FOREVER AND EVER.
I LOVE YOU.

I WONDER IF I SHOULD WORK PART TIME
IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WANT?
Ah.
TOO MUCH FREE TIME AND OTHERS WILL LOOK FOR ME FOR FIGHTS IF I HANG AROUND OUTSIDE AFTER SCHOOL.
AND...
WE'RE LOVERS NOW SO WE'LL GO ON DATES.
The dating and gifts expenses
YOU'RE DOING IT FOR ME?
Hah?
Yeah
I'M SO HAPPY!
FROM NOW ON ...
LET'S DO A LOT OF THINGS TOGETHER.
BUT I'D BE WORRIED IF IT'S TOO LATE SO YOU CAN ONLY WORK UNTIL SEVEN.
HAH?
WILL I GET A JOB LIKE THAT?
Oh I'll pick you up if it's too late
You're overprotective!

すなおになるよ／END

## AFTERWORD

I COULDN'T FIND ANY JOB THAT ENDS AT SEVEN
I couldn't find any
How about the store at the end of the street?
It's only 100metres from here!
NATSUKI FINALLY AGREED FOR ME TO WORK AT THE NEARBY CONVENIENCE STORE UNTIL TEN AT NIGHT
THREE DAYS PER WEEK
I EVEN MADE FRIENDS
YAMADA-KUN, YOU MOVED HERE LAST YEAR?
YEP
HE...
WILL COME OVER AND PICK ME UP. HE'LL ALSO BUY 2 CANS OF COFFEE
You've worked hard, Michiya.
Almost time.
THEN WE'LL STROLL BACK HOME LEISURELY ALONG THAT 100METERS.
SO HAPPY
YAMADA-KUN. THAT NATSUKI WILL ALWAYS STARE AT ME VERY FIERCELY MANAGER, CAN YOU CHANGE MY SHIFT?

WE FINALLY KNOW WHY MICHIYA DOESN'T HAVE MANY FRIENDS

なんだかいいにおい
(GUSH2012年15 6月号)

かわいくないよ
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すなおになるよ
(2010年11月刊 小説ガッシュ)

後日談。
(描きおろし)

あとがき
(描きおろし)

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